



October 30, 2016 - Shannon Chapman

Topic: **Tithing**

Tithing is a TEST

- The Bible says that what we do with the first 10% of our income determines if we pass the test.
- Every time you get paid you have a test. This test is who are you going to thank for your income?
- *Malachi 3:6-12, "For I am the LORD, I do not change; therefore, you are not consumed, O sons of Jacob. Yet from the days of your fathers you have gone away from my ordinances and have not kept them. Return to me, and I will return to you," Says the LORD of hosts. "But you said, 'In what way shall we return?' "Will a man rob God? Yet you have robbed me! But you say, 'In what way have we robbed you?' In tithes and offerings. You are cursed with a curse, for you have robbed Me, even this whole nation. Bring all the tithes into the storehouse, That there may be food in My house, And try Me now in this," Says the LORD of hosts, "If I will not open for you the windows of heaven And pour out for you such blessing That there will not be room enough to receive it.*

- Ordinances – A Principle of ordinary behavior.
- As a Christian, tithing should be a *principle of ordinary behavior*.

Tithing is Biblical

- One reason people say they do not tithe is because tithing is mentioned mostly in the Old Testament and specifically the Law.
- *Genesis 14:18-22, Then Melchizedek king of Salem brought out bread and wine. He was priest of God Most High, and he blessed Abram, saying, “Blessed be Abram by God Most High, Creator of heaven and earth. And praise be to God Most High, who delivered your enemies into your hand.” Then Abram gave him a tenth of everything.*
- *This passage is 500 years before the Law.*
- Jesus himself told us we needed to tithe in the New Testament.
- *Matthew 23:23, “Woe to you, teachers of the law and Pharisees, you hypocrites! You give a tenth of your spices—mint, dill and cumin. But you have neglected the more important matters of the law—justice, mercy and faithfulness. You should have practiced the latter, without neglecting the former.*

Tithing is a Blessing

- *2 Chronicles 31:5-10, As soon as the order went out, the Israelites generously gave the firstfruits of their grain, new wine, olive oil and honey and all that the fields produced. They brought a great amount, a tithe of everything. The people of Israel and Judah who lived in the towns of Judah also brought a tithe of their herds and flocks and a tithe of the holy things dedicated to the LORD their God, and they piled them in heaps. They began doing this in the third month and finished in the seventh month. When Hezekiah and his officials came and saw the heaps, they praised the LORD and blessed his people Israel. Hezekiah asked the priests and Levites about the heaps; and Azariah the chief priest, from the family of Zadok, answered, "Since the people began to bring their contributions to the temple of the LORD, we have had enough to eat and plenty to spare, because the LORD has blessed his people, and this great amount is left over."*
- As soon as they started bringing the tithe everything changed for them and the entire nation.

Conclusion

PRAY, REVIEW, PLAN and ACT!